

ABUSE RESEARCH

For archive and to sign up for distribution list:

<http://abuseresearch.info/>

Questions: Harise Stein, MD harise@stanford.edu

Child Abuse

Raynor E, Konala P, Freemont A.

The detection of significant fractures in suspected infant abuse.

J Forensic Leg Med. 2018 Nov;60:9-14. PMID: [30196192](#)
Skeletal surveys may not be sensitive to immediate injuries, and general detection rates improve with age of the injury. In this series of 38 infants aged <18 months who died of suspected non-accidental injury, skeletal surveys only picked up 54% of fractures recorded by bone biopsy at autopsy.

Jenkins GW, Bresnen D, Jenkins E, Mullen N.

Dental Abscess in Pediatric Patients: A Marker of Neglect.

Pediatr Emerg Care. 2018 Nov;34(11):774-777. PMID: [30211838](#)
From a review of children seen at a British children's hospital emergency room with an "oral cavity" problem, 13% had documented concerns about child abuse/neglect. "There is a lack of recognition of dental neglect being a possible indicator of more systemic abuse."

Kellogg ND, Melville JD, Lukefahr JL, Nienow SM, Russell EL.

Genital and Extragenital Gonorrhea and Chlamydia in Children and Adolescents Evaluated for Sexual Abuse.

Pediatr Emerg Care. 2018 Nov;34(11):761-766. PMID: [28072668](#)
Of 1319 consecutive children evaluated for possible sexual victimization, Chlamydia was identified in 104 patients, and gonorrhea in 33. Of extragenital sites, 51 patients had positive anal tests, and 24 positive oral tests, even though the majority did not report that the assailant's genitals came into contact with those sites. This may represent "infection from sexual contact, contiguous spread of infection, or the presence of infected assailant secretions. Relying on patient reports of symptoms, or types of sexual contact, to determine need for testing may miss NG and CT infections in patients evaluated for sexual victimization."

Vézina-Gagnon P, Bergeron S, Frappier JY, Daigneault I.
Genitourinary Health of Sexually Abused Girls and Boys: A Matched-Cohort Study.

J Pediatr. 2018 Mar;194:171-176. PMID: [29273174](#)
Comparing 882 sexually abused children with matched controls, up to 12 years after sexual abuse was substantiated, not boys, but abused girls had 2.1 and 1.4 times more diagnoses for urinary and genital health problems compared with girls from the general population.

Hiller RM, Meiser-Stedman R, Lobo S, et. al.

A longitudinal investigation of the role of parental responses in predicting children's post-traumatic distress.

J Child Psychol Psychiatry. 2018 Jul;59(7):781-789. PMID: [29197098](#)
For 132 parent-child pairs after children's experience of acute trauma, initial parent negative appraisals and encouragement of avoidant coping (such as not thinking about it) were associated with higher child-reported PTSD symptoms at 6 month follow-up.

Roos LE, Horn S, Berkman ET, Pears K, Fisher PA.

Leveraging translational neuroscience to inform early intervention and addiction prevention for children exposed to early life stress.

Neurobiol Stress. 2018 Oct 26;9:231-240. PMID: [30450387](#)
Review of the possible neural pathways toward addiction that are experienced in early-life-stress exposed children, and application of translational neuroscience principles (strategy to intervene on a specific neural target) to look at possible interventions that could counteract these brain changes.

Cohen RS, Moore JL, Barron CE.

Food Insecurity and Child Maltreatment: A Quality Improvement Project.

R I Med J (2013). 2018 Sep 4;101(7):31-34. PMID: [30189701](#)
Food insecurity affects both children and adults in 8% of households in the United States. Children with a history of child abuse or neglect are at higher risk for food insecurity than other pediatric populations, and authors state pediatric providers should identify food insecurity in their patients, including in subspecialty care clinics, to optimize care for pediatric patients and their families.

Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Houtepen LC, Hardy R, Maddock J, et. al.

Childhood adversity and DNA methylation in two population-based cohorts.

Transl Psychiatry. 2018 Dec 3;8(1):266. PMID: [30510187](#)

Using data from 2 different large UK groups of middle-aged women, methylation (changes to DNA caused by external circumstances) was consistently found in certain gene regions for the circumstances of larger total ACE score, parental mental illness, parental physical illness, and parental death.

Basu A, McLaughlin KA, Misra S, Koenen KC.

Childhood Maltreatment and Health Impact: The Examples of Cardiovascular Disease and Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus in Adults.

Clin Psychol (New York). 2017 Jun;24(2):125-139. PMID: [28867878](#)

In a research review, child maltreatment was associated with cardiovascular disease (heart attack, stroke, coronary heart disease) in 91.7% of studies, with diabetes in 88.2% of studies, and with blood pressure/hypertension in 61.5% of studies. Inclusion of mental disorders tended to decrease these associations. Sex-related differences were under-examined.

You DS, Meagher MW.

Childhood Adversity and Pain Sensitization.

Psychosom Med. 2016 Nov/Dec;78(9):1084-1093. PMID: [27755280](#)

In a laboratory setting of healthy individuals, and controlling for depressive symptoms, those with a history of high levels of childhood adversity reported a progressive increase in pain intensity with repetition of an identical noxious stimulus, as opposed to those with low levels/no childhood adversity. This temporal summation of second pain (TSSP) testing is attributed to central brain processing of pain, and may be a mechanism for the known association of childhood abuse with chronic pain syndromes.

Plant DT, Pawlby S, Pariante CM, Jones FW.

When one childhood meets another - maternal childhood trauma and offspring child psychopathology: A systematic review.

Clin Child Psychol Psychiatry. 2018 Jul;23(3):483-500. PMID: [29171287](#)

In a review of research that included 45,723 mother-child pairs, "There was evidence of an

overall positive association between a mother's history of child maltreatment and her child's experience of emotional and behavioural difficulties across childhood and adolescence. Maternal psychological distress and poorer parenting practices were found to be key mediating pathways of this association...Mothers with traumatic childhood experiences should be offered improved access to psychological therapies and parenting programmes."

Nielsen BFR, Wind G, Tjørnhøj-Thomsen T, Martinsen B.

A Scoping Review of Challenges in Adult Intimate Relationships After Childhood Sexual Abuse.

J Child Sex Abus. 2018 Aug-Sep;27(6):718-728. PMID: [30040596](#)

Review of the impact of childhood sexual abuse on adult intimate relationships in the context of relationship satisfaction, sexual satisfaction, communication, and trust.

Grundmann J, Lincoln TM, Lüdecke D, et. al.

Traumatic Experiences, Revictimization and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder in German Inpatients Treated for Alcohol Dependence.

Subst Use Misuse. 2018 Mar 21;53(4):677-685. PMID: [28952825](#)

For 230 German alcohol dependent patients admitted for detoxification, mean age 43, 73% male, 36.2% reported severe childhood physical or sexual abuse, and 45.6% reported at least one of these types of abuse in adulthood. Lifetime rate of IPV was 61.1%. Women with a history of childhood abuse were 7 times more likely to be victimized in adulthood, while in men revictimization was not significant. Per authors, trauma assessment should be completed in all alcohol treatment programs.

Adolescents

Gray S, Rarick S.

Exploring Gender and Racial/Ethnic Differences in the Effects of Child Sexual Abuse.

J Child Sex Abus. 2018 Jul;27(5):570-587. PMID: [29924694](#)

In this national sample of 13,583 high school students, a history of childhood sexual abuse was associated in males with substance abuse and in females with depressive symptoms and suicidality. The study did not reveal any significant racial/ethnic differences in adolescent coping.

Clark M, Buchanan R, Leve LD.

Young Women's Perspectives of Their Adolescent Treatment Programs: A Qualitative Study.

Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2018 Feb 22;15(2). pii: E373. PMID: [29470424](#)

Insightful and worthwhile article from interviews with young women on their experiences with adolescent treatment programs. "The women had many suggestions for ways in which helping professionals can build trust and be relatable to adolescent clients, such as maintaining confidentiality, being non-judgmental, allowing sufficient time to build rapport, and engaging them in positive, fun activities." Negative characteristics of providers or programs included "high counselor turnover, misunderstandings about limits to confidentiality, feeling judged, feeling that the helping professional was not educated about sex and/or drugs, a lack of personal connection to the helping professional, feeling like they were forced into treatment, and not having a say in the treatment received."

Oshri A, Duprey EB, Kogan SM, Carlson MW, Liu S.

Growth patterns of future orientation among maltreated youth: A prospective examination of the emergence of resilience.

Dev Psychol. 2018 Aug;54(8):1456-1471. PMID: [29952602](#)

In a study of high risk maltreated youth, looking at the resilient quality of "future orientation" (positive expectations for the future) over several years, 76% showed high persistence of future orientation over time, 10% started low but increased during adolescence, and 16% started high and decreased over time. The decreasing group was noted to have more risk factors and fewer resources.

Domestic Violence – Effects on Children

Dababnah S, Rizo CF, Campion K, Downton KD, Nichols HM.

The Relationship Between Children's Exposure to Intimate Partner Violence and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities: A Systematic Review of the Literature.

Am J Intellect Dev Disabil. 2018 Nov;123(6):529-544. PMID: [30421974](#)

"Children exposed to intimate partner violence (IPV) can experience negative social, emotional, behavioral, and academic outcomes." Authors dissect the research, which includes research design challenges such as of different ways of defining and measuring IPV and children's various disabilities.

Coyle MG, Brogly SB, Ahmed MS, Patrick SW, Jones HE.

Neonatal abstinence syndrome.

Nat Rev Dis Primers. 2018 Nov 22;4(1):47. PMID: [30467370](#)

In this review of neonatal withdrawal syndrome caused by opioid use during pregnancy, newborns can manifest with varying severity of symptoms or not at all, and long-term consequences of fetal opioid exposure are only beginning to be understood. For the mothers, "Co-occurring mental illness, economic hardship, intimate partner violence, infectious diseases and limited access to care are common in these women and can result in poor maternal and neonatal outcomes."

Van Ngo T, Gammeltoft T, Nguyen HTT, et. al.

Antenatal depressive symptoms and adverse birth outcomes in Hanoi, Vietnam.

PLoS One. 2018 Nov 2;13(11):e0206650. PMID: [30388162](#)

Of almost 1300 pregnant Vietnamese women, antenatal depressive symptoms were associated with 2.4 times increased risk of preterm birth, and 3.5 times with low birth weight infant. [IPV is a major risk factor for depression in pregnancy.]

Domestic Violence – Physical Health

St Ivany A, Kools S, Sharps P, Bullock L.

Extreme Control and Instability: Insight Into Head Injury From Intimate Partner Violence.

J Forensic Nurs. 2018 Oct/Dec;14(4):198-205. PMID: [30433908](#)

60-92% of survivors of IPV sustain head trauma. Nine women who self-reported passing out from head injury reported extreme control and manipulation from abusers. "Women did not receive medical care for head injury because the abusers often used forced sex immediately after the head injury to instill fear and authority."

Snook ML, Henry LC, Sanfilippo JS, Zeleznik AJ, Kontos AP.

Association of Concussion With Abnormal Menstrual Patterns in Adolescent and Young Women.

JAMA Pediatr. 2017 Sep 1;171(9):879-886. PMID: [28672284](#)

Of 128 patients with mean age 16.2 years, matched for gynecologic age, body mass index, and type of sports participation, patients who experienced a concussion were 5.85 times more likely to report at least 2 or more abnormal menstrual patterns than those who experienced an orthopedic injury. This has implications for adolescent as well as possibly adult women's head injury due to IPV.

Domestic Violence – Mental Health

Brignone E, Sorrentino AE, Roberts CB, Dichter ME.

Suicidal ideation and behaviors among women veterans with recent exposure to intimate partner violence.

Gen Hosp Psychiatry. 2018 Oct 23;55:60-64. PMID: [30412860](#)

“There is a strong association between positive IPV screen and suicidal ideation and self-harm behaviors among VHA-engaged women veterans.

Documentation of either event is an important marker for the other... Suicidal ideation and behaviors should be assessed among women with positive IPV screens, and identification of suicide risk should trigger IPV assessment.”

Santos AGD, Monteiro CFS.

Domains of common mental disorders in women reporting intimate partner violence.

Rev Lat Am Enfermagem. 2018 Nov 29;26:e3099. PMID: [30517584](#)

In this study of 369 Brazilian women experiencing IPV, “depressive thoughts increased 3.11 times with psychological aggression, 6.13 times with physical aggression without sequelae [ongoing or chronic consequences], 2.47 times with sexual coercion and 7.3 times with physical aggression with sequelae.”

LGBTQ Concerns

Tyler KA, Schmitz RM.

A comparison of risk factors for various forms of trauma in the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual and heterosexual homeless youth.

J Trauma Dissociation. 2018 Jul-Sep;19(4):431-443. PMID: [29601290](#)

LGB youth are over-represented among homeless youth, have more trouble finding shelter, and are more likely to trade sex for survival items such as food.

Cultural Concerns

Maru M, Saraiya T, Lee CS, Meghani O, Hien D, Hahn HC.

The Relationship Between Intimate Partner Violence and Suicidal Ideation among Young Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese American Women.

Women Ther. 2018;41(3-4):339-355. PMID: [30467448](#)

For 173 2nd generation Chinese, Korean, and/or Vietnamese women aged 18-35 enrolled in an empowerment intervention, 7 out of 10 had experienced lifetime suicidal ideation. After controlling for demographics and childhood abuse, history of physical and/or sexual IPV had the most robust association with lifetime suicidal ideation.

Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Byrne G.

Prevalence and psychological sequelae of sexual abuse among individuals with an intellectual disability.

J Intellect Disabil. 2018 Sep;22(3):294-310. PMID: [30134783](#)

Discussion of 29 recent articles on the impact of sexual abuse among those with an intellectual disability. Children and adults with an intellectual disability are at higher risk of sexual abuse than nondisabled peers.

Van Den Bruele AB, Dimachk M, Crandall M.

Elder Abuse.

Clin Geriatr Med. 2019 Feb;35(1):103-113. PMID: [30390976](#)
General review article.

Marshall KA, Hale D.

Elder Abuse.

Home Healthc Now. 2018 Jan/Feb;36(1):51-52. PMID: [29298198](#)

Brief review for home healthcare providers.

Daly JM, Butcher HK.

Evidence-Based Practice Guideline: Elder Abuse Prevention.

J Gerontol Nurs. 2018 Jul 1;44(7):21-30. PMID: [29969137](#)

The current article summarizes prevalence and risk factors for elder abuse, instruments available to assess risk, and potential interventions to prevent or reduce elder abuse.

Labrum T, Solomon PL.

Elder Mistreatment Perpetrators with Substance Abuse and/or Mental Health Conditions.

Psychiatr Q. 2018 Mar;89(1):117-128. PMID: [28534281](#)

Emotional elder mistreatment committed by persons with SAMHC (substance abuse/mental health conditions) was associated with perpetrator-unemployment, history of involvement with police, and fewer friendships. Physical elder mistreatment was associated with police involvement of the perpetrator and greater occurrences of lifetime physical mistreatment experienced by the victim.

Detection of elder abuse: Exploring the potential use of the Elder Abuse Suspicion Index© by law enforcement in the field.

J Elder Abuse Negl. 2018 Mar-May;30(2):103-126. PMID: 28956731

69 Connecticut police officers indicated that the important elements of a desirable tool for helping to detect elder abuse included ease of use, clear instructions, and information on follow-up resources. A modified tool was developed for this purpose - the Elder Abuse Suspicion Index-LEO (LEO=law enforcement officer).

◆ This instrument should be administered to older adults who are cognitively intact.	
Is cognition of the older adult in question?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Know → Perform CIT
◆ The following question indicates potential vulnerability of the older adult.	
Within the last 12 months: (Check all that apply)	
1. Have you relied on people for any of the following?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Did Not Ans.
<input type="checkbox"/> Bathing	<input type="checkbox"/> Banking
<input type="checkbox"/> Dressing	<input type="checkbox"/> Meals
<input type="checkbox"/> Shopping	<input type="checkbox"/> Other →
◆ A finding of "yes" to one or more of the following questions should raise your suspicion of elder abuse.	
2. Has anyone you prevented you from getting any of the following?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Did Not Ans.
<input type="checkbox"/> Food	<input type="checkbox"/> Hearing aids
<input type="checkbox"/> Clothes	<input type="checkbox"/> Medical care
<input type="checkbox"/> Medication	<input type="checkbox"/> Other →
3. Has anyone prevented you from being with the people you want to be with?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Did Not Ans.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes → Name(s): _____	
4. Have you been upset because someone talked to you in a way that made you:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Did Not Ans.
<input type="checkbox"/> Feel ashamed/bad about yourself	<input type="checkbox"/> Feel threatened or afraid
5. Has anyone:	
Forced you to sign papers?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Did Not Ans.
Forced you to use your money against your will?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Did Not Ans.
6. Has anyone:	
Touched you in a way(s) that you did not want?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Did Not Ans.
Hurt you physically?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Did Not Ans.
7. Officer: Elder abuse <u>may</u> be associated with findings such as: Poor eye contact, withdrawn nature, malnourishment, hygiene issues, cuts, bruises, inappropriate clothing or medication compliance issues. Do you notice any of these today? (Circle all that apply) <i>*The officer may trigger the protocol referral, if not already triggered above, as a result of the victim's response to the above questions, appearance, environment, or whenever the officer believes the victim is in a <u>potentially abusive or neglectful situation</u>.</i>	

Figure 3. Modifications to the Elder Abuse Suspicion Index©.

◆ The following questions address additional NEEDS the older adult may be experiencing.	
Do you have anyone to talk to outside of your caregiver?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Determine
Do you feel safe in your current residence?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Determine
Do you need additional assistance or services? (Check all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Determine
<input type="checkbox"/> Health	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> Finance	<input type="checkbox"/> Nutrition
<input type="checkbox"/> Safety	<input type="checkbox"/> Companionship
<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Status	<input type="checkbox"/> Home Maintenance
When in need, how can you contact emergency personnel?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Knows 911	<input type="checkbox"/> Life Line
<input type="checkbox"/> Life Alert	<input type="checkbox"/> PERS
<input type="checkbox"/> Phone	<input type="checkbox"/> Other →
	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to Contact
Notes:	

Figure 4. Assessment of additional needs.

Sexual Assault

Santelli JS, Grilo SA, Choo TH, et. al.

Does sex education before college protect students from sexual assault in college?

PLoS One. 2018 Nov 14;13(11):e0205951. PMID: [30427866](#)

In this multi-faceted study, historical factors associated with sexual assault in college included ACEs; having experienced unwanted sexual contact before college; and initiation of alcohol, marijuana, and sexual behavior before age 18. Receipt before age 18 of school-based sex education promoting refusal skills, but not abstinence-only instruction, was protective. In interviews, many students reported that sex education before college was awkward and poorly delivered.

Lorenz K, Ullman SE, Kirkner A, et. al.

Social Reactions to Sexual Assault Disclosure: A Qualitative Study of Informal Support Dyads.

Violence Against Women. 2018 Oct;24(12):1497-1520. PMID: [29332560](#)

From interviews with 45 informal supporters where sexual assault had been disclosed to them, "Analysis showed social reactions and appraisals of reactions varied by relationship type (family, friend, significant other). Themes identified were role reversal or 'parentification' of supporters, reactions of anger and aggression toward perpetrators, supporters using their own trauma experiences to respond to survivors, and reactions of betrayal."

Human Trafficking

Identifying Human Trafficking Victims on a Psychiatry Inpatient Service: a Case Series.

Psychiatr Q. 2018 Jun;89(2):341-348. PMID: [28971296](#)

Authors reviewed the literature on presentation and identification of trafficking victims in psychiatric settings and identified six inpatient cases, 2 labor trafficked and 4 sex trafficked. "The cases demonstrated a tremendous diversity of demographic and psychiatric identifying factors." Authors note the importance of screening and identification to enable the secondary prevention of re-exploitation at discharge.

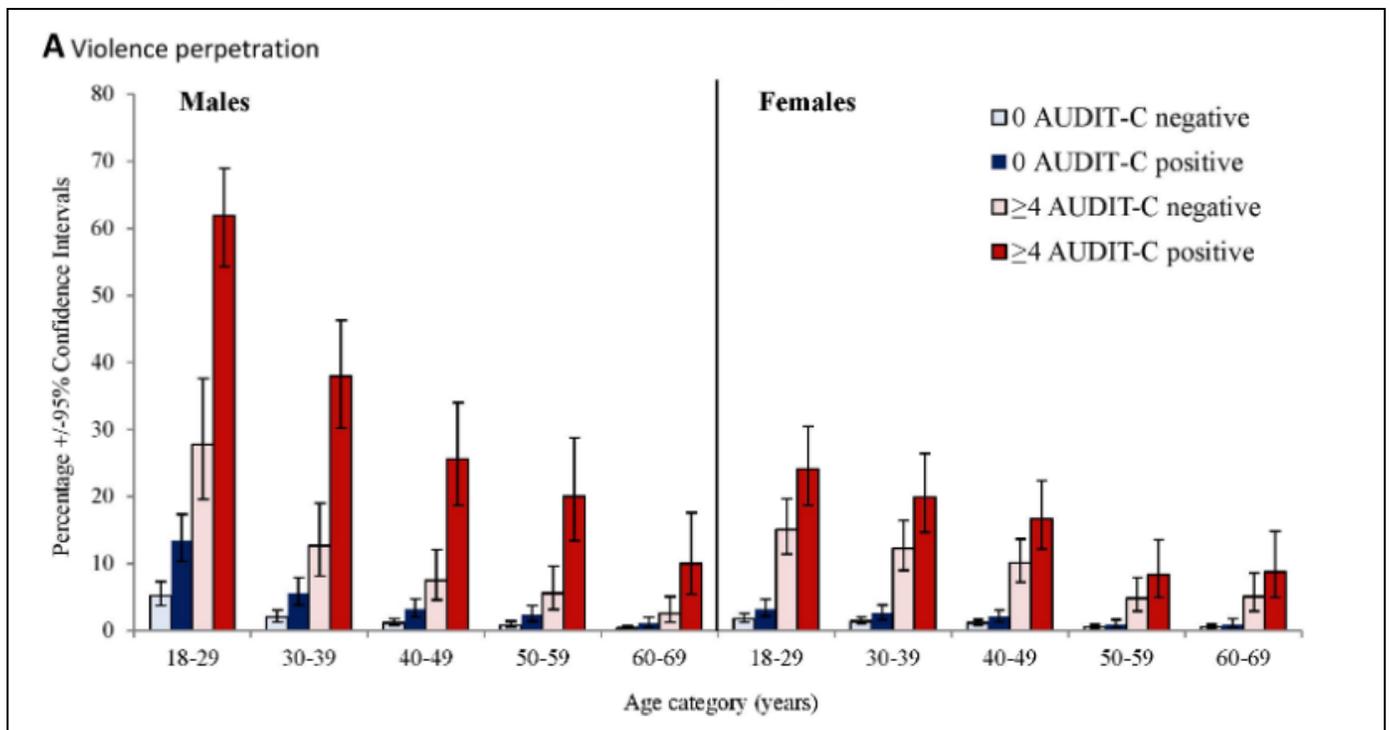
Perpetrators

Bellis MA, Hughes K, Ford K, et. al.

Does adult alcohol consumption combine with adverse childhood experiences to increase involvement in violence in men and women? A cross-sectional study in England and Wales.

BMJ Open. 2018 Dec 6;8(12):e020591. PMID: [30523131](#)

In this UK survey study, younger age, being male, alcohol abuse, and having 4 or more ACEs had a cumulative effect on IPV perpetration. [Audit-C = alcohol screen]



McCarthy KJ, Mehta R, Haberland NA.

Gender, power, and violence: A systematic review of measures and their association with male perpetration of IPV. PLoS One. 2018 Nov 29;13(11):e0207091. PMID: [30496217](#)

From a research review on studies relating to male perpetration of IPV, "Measures inclusive of acceptance of violence against women or beliefs about men's sexual entitlement, followed by scales that measured respondents' views on gender roles/norms, were most consistently associated with IPV perpetration. Measures of relationship power showed less consistent associations. We found few scales that measured peer or community norms."

Mackowiak C, Scoglio AAJ.

The Safing Center: A specialty clinic for treatment and prevention of IPV with veterans.

Psychol Serv. 2018 Nov;15(4):371-378. PMID: [30382732](#)
Description of a VA mental health specialty clinic focused on treatment and prevention of IPV, to reduce stigma and shame, and to allow for comprehensive assessment and collaborative treatment planning.

Police and Court Systems

O'Donohue W, Cummings C, Willis B.

The Frequency of False Allegations of Child Sexual Abuse: A Critical Review.

J Child Sex Abus. 2018 Jul;27(5):459-475. PMID: [29913113](#)
In a review of this topic, authors state "there is a large variation in estimated rates of false allegations of sexual abuse depending on the data source and context of the allegation. Additionally, methodological problems such as unclear or invalid criteria used to judge truth or falsity of an allegation, unrepresentative samples, and ignoring important contextual variables such as the stage at which an allegation is made, currently all render the determination of actual rates of false child sexual abuse allegations to be unknown...Suggestions for future research, as well as cautions about claims about specific rates of false allegations in the courtroom, are provided."

Person CJ, Moracco KEB, Agnew-Brune C, Bowling JM.

"I Don't Know That I've Ever Felt Like I Got the Full Story": A Qualitative Study of Courtroom Interactions Between Judges and Litigants in Domestic Violence Protective Order Cases.

Violence Against Women. 2018 Oct;24(12):1474-1496. PMID: [29355079](#)

Authors conducted DV protective order hearing observations and phone interviews with District Court Judges. Themes emerged that may influence judges' decision making: case information availability, judge engagement level, and litigant credibility. Recommendations include more time for judges to review case files, IPV-related training for judges, and increased court advocate use.

Providers

Esden JL.

Adverse childhood experiences and implementing trauma-informed primary care.

Nurse Pract. 2018 Dec;43(12):10-21. PMID: [30379710](#)
Review of ACEs for NP in a primary care setting, including the 4 E's model of trauma-informed care.

The 4 E's model of trauma-informed care for the primary care setting

Educate

Systematically train all providers and staff in trauma-informed care strategies; learner objectives include:

- Identify the various types of ACEs
- Explain how ACEs affect brain development
- Describe the role ACEs play in the development of health risk behaviors, mental illness, and chronic illness
- Recognize the importance of screening for ACEs
- Learn how to respond to disclosures of abuse
- Assemble plans to intervene for patients in need

Empathize

- Consider how trauma has affected patients and their current behaviors and health
- Recognize patients' potential barriers to following recommended plans of care
- Develop sensitive responses to abuse disclosures

Explain

- Create a safe environment for patients
- Honestly explain exams and procedures
- Answer questions
- Adjust usual routines to accommodate patients' unique needs
- Avoid retraumatization

Empower

- Eliminate the power differential between provider and patient
- Utilize a patient-centered care approach
- Employ shared-decision making strategies
- Facilitate goal-setting and positive health choices
- Develop evidence-based treatment plans
- Connect patients to care and resources

Adapted with permission from: Mollard E, Hudson DB. Nurse-led trauma-informed correctional care for women. *Perspect Psychiatr Care*. 2016;52:224-230.

Finkelhor D.

**Screening for adverse childhood experiences (ACEs):
Cautions and suggestions.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2018 Nov;85:174-179. PMID: [28784309](#)

“This article argues that it is still premature to start widespread screening for adverse childhood experiences (ACE) in health care settings until we have answers to several important questions: 1) what are the effective interventions and responses we need to have in place to offer to those with positive ACE screening, 2) what are the potential negative outcomes and costs to screening that need to be buffered in any effective screening regime, and 3) what exactly should we be screening for? The article makes suggestions for needed research activities.”

Selby S, Wang D, Murray E, Lang E.

Emergency Departments as the Health Safety Nets of Society: A Descriptive and Multicenter Analysis of Social Worker Support in the Emergency Room.

Cureus. 2018 Sep 4;10(9):e3247. PMID: [30416898](#)

Over a 3 year period in 4 emergency departments in Calgary, Canada, 8.02% of patients seen were referred to SW – 43 referrals/day. “The most represented reasons for referral (comprising 69.7% of total referrals) in descending order were financial concerns, discharge planning, illness adjustment, addiction issues, and resource counseling. 6% of women and 1.9% of men were referred for IPV. “Integrating SW into the ED is complex, but the impact on patient care and resource use is substantial and promising.”

Desir MP, Karatekin C.

Parental reactions to parent- and sibling-directed aggression within a domestic violence context.

Clin Child Psychol Psychiatry. 2018 Jul;23(3):457-470. PMID: [29409328](#)

From interviews with 44 women residing in a domestic violence shelter with at least one child over 3.5 years of age who was aggressive toward them and/or siblings, caregiver emotional reactions included anger, sadness, guilt, forgiveness, and worthlessness. 89% had sought help for their child’s aggression and found it effective.

Brown C.

Physicians not immune to intimate partner violence.

CMAJ. 2018 Nov 19;190(46):E1372-E1373. PMID: [30455277](#)

Review of IPV in physicians in the context of an upcoming Canadian trial of a physician who murdered his physician-wife. [Full text](#)

Prevention

Decker MR, Wilcox HC, Holliday CN, Webster DW.

An Integrated Public Health Approach to Interpersonal Violence and Suicide Prevention and Response.

Public Health Rep. 2018 Nov/Dec;133(1_suppl):65S-79S.

PMID: [30426878](#)

“In this article, we suggest a public health framework for preventing community violence, intimate partner violence, sexual violence, and suicide as key forms of interpersonal and self-directed violence. These types of violence often co-occur and share common risk and protective factors...public health can work with the education system, criminal justice system, and other sectors to address the public health burden of interpersonal violence and suicide.”

Dias A, Mooren T, Kleber RJ.

Public health actions to mitigate long-term consequences of child maltreatment.

J Public Health Policy. 2018 Aug;39(3):294-303. PMID:

[29795522](#)

“Child maltreatment (CM) is highly prevalent and one of the most injurious conditions that children may experience. Because it is often-clandestine, it is difficult to assure that existing prevention and treatment mechanisms reach those in need. CM’s consequences may take a long time to be recognized and expressed.” Authors suggest 3 public health intervention targets to modify the effects of childhood maltreatment for adults, which may also have an impact across generations – emotion regulation, social functioning, and self-concept.

Nygren P, Green B, Winters K, Rockhill A.

What's Happening During Home Visits? Exploring the Relationship of Home Visiting Content and Dosage to Parenting Outcomes.

Matern Child Health J. 2018 Oct;22(Suppl 1):52-61. PMID:

[29948763](#)

From home visits over the course of a year with 123 women, the 3 most often discussed content areas were early childhood development, physical care of children, and parent-child-relationship. Women whose visits were focused more on parenting topics reported lower parenting-related stress, and higher-risk women who received greater numbers of home visits showed larger reductions in their attitudes about harsh punishment over time.

Researchers

Rothman EF, Stoklosa H, Baldwin SB, et. al.

Public Health Research Priorities to Address US Human Trafficking.

Am J Public Health. 2017 Jul;107(7):1045-1047. PMID: [28590857](#)

Authors suggest a robust public health approach to US human trafficking with priority on 5 research goals: prevalence and incidence, cost burden, risk and protective factors, screening and response, and prevention strategies.

Todres J, Wolf LE.

The Complexities of Conducting Research on Child Trafficking.

JAMA Pediatr. 2017 Jan 1;171(1):9-10. PMID: [27893879](#)

Discussion of legal, ethical and practical challenges of conducting research on child trafficking.

McCauley HL, Bonomi AE, Maas MK, Bogen KW, O'Malley TL.

#MaybeHeDoesntHitYou: Social Media Underscore the Realities of Intimate Partner Violence.

J Womens Health (Larchmt). 2018 Jul;27(7):885-891. PMID: [29565754](#)

From an analysis of social media usage around #MaybeHeDoesn'tHitYou, users described all dimensions of the Duluth Power and Control Wheel plus one not currently represented – reproductive coercion. Two additional themes emerged – users challenged the gender pronoun of the hashtag, and users provided social support for others.

Other of Interest

Venters H.

Notions from Kavanaugh hearings contradict medical facts.

Lancet. 2018 Oct 20;392(10156):1402. PMID: [30297136](#)

“What we witnessed this week was nothing short of an unscientific and biased attempt to cause shame to survivors and to deny the most basic realities of sexual assault. It defies all well-established knowledge about how the brain experiences trauma, and we, as medical professionals, need to do better to speak out about this blatant disregard for the truth. We owe it to our profession, and most importantly, we owe it to survivors who often do not have the voice to speak out for themselves.”

Gestos M, Smith-Merry J, Campbell A.

Representation of Women in Video Games: A Systematic Review in Consideration of Adult Female Wellbeing.

Cyberpsychol Behav Soc Netw. 2018 Sep;21(9):535-541.

PMID: [30132695](#)

Female characters in video games “are mostly shown as subordinate to the male hero of the game, objectified, and hypersexualized with disproportionate body parts. The review also uncovered the propensity for men exposed to objectified and sexualized female characters within video games to hold sexist attitudes toward women in a real-life setting, and being more lenient to accept cultural rape myths.”

Letourneau EJ, Brown DS, Fang X, Hassan A, Mercy JA.

The economic burden of child sexual abuse in the US.

Child Abuse Negl. 2018 May;79:413-422. PMID: [29533869](#)

Table 2

Total lifetime costs of child sexual abuse, 2015, United States (based on substantiated cases of child sexual abuse).

Source of Cost	Total Lifetime Costs (in 2015 dollars)		
	Female	Male	Total
Nonfatal			
Incidence (cases)	30,290	10,097	40,387
Child health care costs	\$434,886,632	\$144,966,997	\$579,853,629
Adult health care costs	\$299,325,148	\$99,778,343	\$399,103,492
Productivity losses	\$6,772,276,872	\$0	\$6,772,276,872
Child welfare costs	\$252,419,367	\$84,142,567	\$336,561,933
Violence/crime			
Assault	\$42,063,448	\$14,021,612	\$56,085,060
Robbery	\$27,533,136	\$9,178,015	\$36,711,151
Burglary	\$3,418,901	\$1,139,671	\$4,558,572
Theft > \$50	\$685,859	\$228,627	\$914,486
Special education costs	\$113,879,927	\$37,961,229	\$151,841,156
Suicide deaths	\$617,536,368	\$362,730,618	\$980,266,986
Total	\$8,564,025,658	\$754,147,679	\$9,318,173,337
Fatal			
Incidence (cases)	17	3	20
Medical costs	\$386,416	\$65,254	\$451,669
Productivity losses	\$18,795,263	\$4,383,546	\$23,178,809
Total	\$19,181,679	\$4,448,800	\$23,630,478
Total costs (including both fatal and nonfatal cases)	\$8,583,207,337	\$758,596,479	\$9,341,803,815
QALY loss	\$1,241,923,138	\$392,812,187	\$1,634,735,326